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September 13, 2023
Peckville, PA 18452

The Regular Public Work Session of the Blakely Borough Council
was cancelled due to lack of a quorum.

Christopher R. Paone
Blakely Borough Secretary

September 18, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Blakely Borough Council was held at 6:00 P.M. in the Blakely Borough Building, 1439 Main Street, Peckville, PA 18452.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Jeanette Acciare-Mariani - absent
Jeff Cruciani - present Joseph Munley - present
Michael HENZES - present Kyle Burak - present
Kevin Swift - present Louis Parri - present
Edward J. Alco Jr. - present Carlo Celli - present

Mr. Parri presided.

Be it known a quorum was present.

A motion to accept the public hearing meeting, special meeting, public work session meeting, and regular meeting minutes was made by Mr. HENZES and seconded by Mr. Cruciani. All ayes.

READING OF CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Paone read a letter from PA State Auditor General, Timothy DeFoor, informing the borough that our 2023 commonwealth state aid allocation supporting the Volunteer Relief Association will be deposited on September 21, 2023, in the amount of \$36,661.94.

Mr. Paone read a letter from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation informing the borough that our 2024 Liquid Fuels (Act 655) allocation will be \$193,343.48 and our Highway Turnback (Act 32) allocation will be \$480.00. Both amounts will be deposited on March 1, 2024.

Mr. Paone read a letter from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation informing the borough that PennDOT would sign the updated signal plan for the Depot St. ARLE Grant Crossing that would include the removal of the Stop Sign on Depot St.

Mr. Paone read a letter from the PA Department of Environmental Protection informing the borough that the Hulls Creek and Wildcat/Tinklepaugh Creek inspections have been completed. Both projects were given a rating of minimally acceptable with a list

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of items that the borough could work on throughout the next year.

Mr. Paone read the bills presented for payment.

Borough Bills Light Bills

The bills were approved by the finance committee. A motion to accept the bills was made by Mr. Munley and seconded by Mr. Burak. All ayes.

General Payable - \$133,911.12 Electric Payable - \$27,413.16

REPORT OF BOROUGH OFFICERS

MAYOR- The Chief read the Mayor's report.

SOLICITOR - Atty. Abrahamsen opened the bids for the Virginia Ave. and Bodnick St. Storm Sewer Extension:

	<u>Base Bid</u>	<u>Bid Bond</u>
Stafursky Paving Co. Inc.	\$79,225.00	Yes
Linde Corpotation	\$99,555.00	Yes

A motion to approve the low bidder contingent on approval by the borough engineer was made by Mr. Swift seconded by Mr. Cruciani. All ayes

Atty. Abrahamsen read Resolution 23-2023 to authorize Blakely Borough to apply for a Local Share Account Grant (Monroe County) for the Lackawanna County SWAT Team and make Christopher Paone the authorized signer for all documents. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Alco seconded by Mr. Munley. All ayes

Atty. Abrahamsen read Resolution 24-2023 to authorize Blakely Borough to apply for a Local Share Account Grant (Statewide) for the Lackawanna County SWAT Team and make Christopher Paone the authorized signer for all documents. A motion to approve was made by Mr. HENZES and seconded by Mr. Cruciani. All ayes.

Atty. Abrahamsen asked for a motion to authorize the advertising of the PURPA ordinance for the electric company. A motion to authorize was made by Mr. Burak and seconded by Mr. Munley. All ayes.

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Atty. Abrahamsen asked for a motion to authorize the advertising of an update to the electric ordinance for the addition of EV chargers and noise ordinance. A motion to authorize was made by Mr. Burak and seconded by Mr. Munley. All ayes.

TREASURERS REPORT

Mr. Paone read the Treasurers Report. A motion to accept the Treasurers Report was made by Mr. Cruciani and seconded by Mr. Swift. All ayes.

CONTROLLER - Mr. Celli said that we will begin the 2024 budget next month.

MINE CAVE COMMISSION - Mr. Paone read the Mine Cave Commission Report for the month of August, 2023. All mine openings and voids are secure as of September 18, 2023. A motion to accept the report was made by Mr. Alco and seconded by Mr. Burak. All ayes.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

POLICE - No report.

BUILDINGS - Mr. Parri said we have replaced 2 of the garage doors in the police garage with one larger one. The larger police cars were making it difficult to easily pull them in and out of the garage.

FINANCE - Mr. Henzes read the Financial Report. A motion to accept the report was made by Mr. Swift and seconded by Mr. Cruciani. All ayes

EMERGENCY SERVICES -No report.

REFUSE - Mr. Alco stated any late refuse bills that are not paid by the end of September will be sent to the magistrate.

ELECTRIC LIGHT - Mr. Cruciani said Mr. Parri, Mr. Paone, Mr. Henzes and our Electric Superintendent John Charles attended the annual meeting of PMEA. They were able to meet with many representatives of other public power municipalities and find best practices and new ideas for the future.

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ROADS - Mr. Swift said UGI will begin more gas main replacements on Sunset St., Ann St., Coal St. and Upper Keystone Ave. within the next few weeks. PA American Water will also begin water main replacements on the 400 block of Kingsley Blvd. and the 200-300 blocks of Riverside Dr. within the next few weeks also.

He also said the replacement of the sidewalks from Gino Merli Dr. to Academy St. was completed last week. The replacement of sidewalks from Hospital St. to Lillibridge St. will begin this week.

SEWERS - No report.

EQUIPMENT - No report.

RECREATION - Mr. Munley said NC Outdoor Services is donating 4 shade trees to the borough to be used in our parks. We are looking into areas to place them currently and once we have selected the areas NC Outdoor will install them for the borough at no cost.

OLD BUSINESS - A new curb and swale were installed to stop road storm water from washing dirt onto Reserves Alley.

A new business on Main St. has had multiple citations and visits from the police in the past month.

NEW BUSINESS - Mr. Paone read the MMO's for 2024 - Police Pension is \$174,199.00 and Non-Uniform Pension is \$0.00 (Zero) A motion to approve was made by Mr. HENZES and seconded by Mr. Munley. All ayes.

REMARKS FROM CITIZENS:

Dennis Lemoncelli, 99 Woodland Dr., asked if the council had decided on the area between the curb and the wall at his house. Mr. Paone asked if Atty. Abrahamsen could explain the PA Right of Way Law as it pertains to a situation like this. Atty. Abrahamsen explained that the borough has the responsibility to the curb, but has a right of way on all roads to do work such as power lines, storm and sanitary sewer lines, etc. It is also not the borough's responsibility to maintain any type of growth behind the curb line. Mr. Lemoncelli then mentioned a storm grate that has sunk down. Mr. Paone said he would have the DPW crew check it out the next day. Mr. Lemoncelli then asked about

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a new curb because the one there is gone and it is causing a lot of issues in the area. Mr. Paone said he would have the DPW look at that as well tomorrow.

Tom Elkins, Hickory St., asked when Main St. would be paved. Mr. Paone informed him that they should be starting that within the next few weeks. His next question was about the wall on Main St. Mr. Paone told him that he has been asking for an update on the beginning of construction, but the county has not given a start date. Mr. Elkins then asked Chief Salerno about the large tractor trailer that Bear Owens has the drivers come up Hickory St. and turns onto Walnut St. He said that it always runs over the sidewalk when turning.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Henzes and seconded by Mr. Cruciani. All ayes.

Christopher R. Paone
Blakely Borough Secretary